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Dated: April 15, 2004      Signature:   
(Anthony G. Sitko)

3679 ✓  
Docket No.: 27392/22890  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Gerd Löhn

Application No.: 10/089,711

Confirmation No.:

Filed: April 1, 2002

Art Unit: 3679

For: ELEMENTS TO BE LINKED BY MEANS  
OF A SCREW CONNECTION,  
ESPECIALLY ELEMENTS OF A MEDICAL  
INSTRUMENT

Examiner: John R. Cottingham

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 21 2004

Dear Sir:

**GROUP 3600**

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date, OR more than three months after the date of entry of the national stage of a PCT application, AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurs first, but before the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance (37 CFR 1.97(c)). A check in the amount of \$180 for the required fee is enclosed.

A copy of each reference on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

04/21/2004 MBERHE 00000090 10089711  
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In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 27392/22890. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: April 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By

Anthony G. Sitko

Registration No.: 36,278

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300

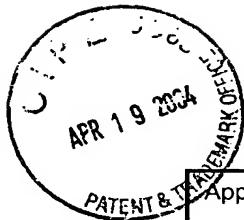
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Attorneys for Applicant

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Application No. (if known): 10/089,711

Attorney Docket No.: 27392/22890

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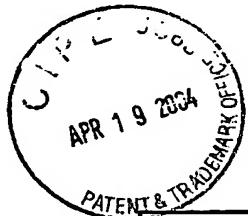
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IDS (Citation) by Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/089,711-Conf. #2756
				Filing Date	April 1, 2002
				First Named Inventor	Gerd Löhn
				Art Unit	3679
				Examiner Name	John R. Cottingham
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	27392/22890

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
		2,066,541	01/05/37	Schenk	
		2,836,448	05/27/58	King	
		4,191,486	03/04/80	Pelton	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		EPO 918 166 A1	05/26/99			
		DE 588 848	12/01/33			
		JP 8-193608	07/30/96			
		JP 9-32840	02/04/97			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		Search Report for DE 199 47 325.0	

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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